

Year 2020



Image: Happy moments in the Village, Mother and her Child catching the sun in SOS CV Kenya. Photo by Felix Mweu MA Kenya

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Reporting period:	2020
Date & ADAM-ID of most recent child rights situation analysis:	Click or tap to enter a date. Click or tap here to enter text.
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. National context and stakeholders

A locust attack which started early 2020 with negative consequences on food security, growth of the agriculture sector, and livelihoods across Kenya immediately joined by the Covid-19 (coronavirus) pandemic confirmed in Kenya on 12th March that brought with it an operating environment of high uncertainty, unclear and unfamiliar risks and an unprecedented shock that crippled the country's key economic drivers defined the year 2020. With more than 62 per cent of individuals in Kenya absent from work due to Covid-19 related issues, 78 per cent uncertain when they would return to work and 37 per cent unable to pay rent, it is estimated that the coronavirus pandemic increased poverty in Kenya by four (4) percentage points and left approximately two (2) million more Kenyans poor. Movement restrictions and health regulations imposed by government in its bid to contain the spread of Covid-19 affected SOS CV KE's and its key stakeholders' ability to optimally serve beneficiaries as access to vulnerable families in the community remained restrained.

Among immediate directives issued by the government was a call to employers to allow employees work from home; schools to abruptly close and charitable children's institutions (CCIs) to enforce strict social distancing measures inside the institutions including by placing children with traceable relatives in their communities of origin. The closure of schools affected over 18 million children in Kenya and prompted the development of a Covid-19 response plan, the Kenya Basic Education Covid-19 Response Plan. Schools have traditionally been perceived to provide "safe havens" for the girl child, and not attending school exposed girls to great risk of sexual violence and exploitation. Citizen News TV in 2020 evidenced an increase in teen pregnancies, child labour and sexual acts among young girls in exchange for food or money due to the extenuating circumstances created by Covid-19. A Human Rights Watch report of 2020 (HRW, 2020) revealed that Covid-19 exacerbated previous inequalities by excluding vulnerable children from receiving quality education thereby exposing these children to further grave human rights violations.

The Covid-19 pandemic necessitated our line ministry, the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, to put in place additional guidelines and measures specifically to contain its spread among children in institutional care who were perceived to be at highest risk of cluster infection. Amongst the measures announced involved early release of children to their families and ensuring those left in institutions were protected. Close to 60% of children in institutional care were reintegrated with their families in the community. Admissions into children's institutions were further restricted and protocols for Case Management for children and staff in children's institutions were developed to guide in standardizing operations, enhancing coordination and ensuring effective child-friendly safeguards to promote the best interest of the child during the pandemic. The ministry's Department of Children Services (DCS) that works closely with SOS CV KE sustained a moratorium against inter country and resident adoptions of Kenyan children, as well as a moratorium on the registration of new CCIs as it intensified its efforts to limit intake of children into CCIs. The DCS concluded on its pilot of the National Guidelines on Alternative Care done in five (5) counties focusing on re-integration of Children into their families of biological origin.

It is said, every dark cloud has with it a silver lining. SOS CV KE demonstrated its innovations capabilities in this difficult year coming out with some acknowledged best practices under the circumstances. The Voucher Assistance (VA) programme helped us reach out to our Family Strengthening (FS) target communities who were rendered even more vulnerable by Covid-19, its effects on the economy and government measures that included movement restrictions in and out of these communities. The National Director's Award 2020 helped positively engage full time children, young persons and care workers who were now boiling over after close to 9 months of containment fatigue inside the children's villages. A rapidly developed business continuity plan that included overhauling the ICT infrastructure across SOS CV KE and making each programme location and the National Office business ready ensured that business operations and interactions between SOS CV KE and the external partners was not interrupted whether children, young persons and staff worked from home or from the office.

SOS CV KE is very grateful to all our support partners who closely stood with us during the year and enabled us ensure all our children, young persons, staff and communities were kept safe and that SOS CV KE continued to provide its services that ensure "A Loving Home for Every Child" and that "No Child Grows Up Alone". The government of Kenya through the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection and its Departments of Children's Services and Department of Social Development; the Ministry of Health and the respective County Surveillance Teams; The National Coordinating Agency

Against Drugs and Substance Abuse (NACADA); respective County Government Children's Forums; respective County Child Protection Forums; Respective County Journalist Forums; Advocacy for Change; The Kenya Methodist University; The University of Maryland in Baltimore; Our Promoting and Supporting Associations (PSAs) SOS Denmark, SOS Netherlands, the Herrmann Gmeiner Foundation in Germany and SOS Norway; The Communications Authority of Kenya (CAK); the Bata Shoe Company; Davis & Shirliff; Mombasa Cement; Nyali Business & Residents Association; SOS International Office Region-ESAF; the Central bank of Kenya among many others. We remain grateful and hopeful that we will continue walking together in 2021 and beyond.

2. Member association analysis

Strategy implementation status [see 2.1]	
Achievements	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reached 1,237(646 Male and 591 Female) children through a range of Alternative Care options and effective gate keeping. ▪ Through the Voucher Assistance programme and other innovations such as cash transfers especially during cessation of movements into the community, SOS CV KE Family Strengthening programmes supported 3,766 families/ households reaching 6,773 children (3,379 males and 3,394 females), 851 young persons (428 males and 423 females) with quality care, protection and livelihood support. ▪ SOS CV KE Advocacy efforts and engagements especially with the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection through high level engagements with the Cabinet Secretary, the Principal Secretary, the various State Department Secretaries and the respective Directors of the State Departments under the ministry helped strengthen public laws and policies in favour of and in the best interest of children and our target families. ▪ 95% of young people leaving SOS CV KE's Alternative Care were self-reliant; 85% of SOS CV KE Alternative Care and 81% of Family Strengthening children recorded satisfactory academic performance at the close of schools in March 2020. ▪ SOS CV KE's working relationship with the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection and its respective State Departments of Children's Services and Social Development improved significantly with both parties implementing increased number of joint community-level activities in child protection and social development. ▪ SOS CV KE improved its Sponsorship ranking moving from 59% in 2019 to 93% in 2020. A demonstration of increased efforts to ensure child sponsorship is better managed. ▪ Senior Managers including Programme Location Management Teams underwent the Kenyan NGOs Board Laws and Regulations Training to enhance understanding and subsequent compliance of laws governing non-governmental entity operations in Kenya. 	
Challenges	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The slow pace of SOS CVI organizational alignment to the fast pace of Kenya's national care reforms agenda that appeared to project SOS CV KE as an unwilling reforms partner. ▪ The confirmation of Covid-19 in the country and the associated government measures put in place to contain its spread disrupted "Business As Usual" at SOS CV KE including our direct support to Family Strengthening beneficiary children, young persons and families/ households in the community. ▪ Extended implementation of guidelines issued to CCIs aimed at keeping children and care workers in the institutions introduced with it other challenges such as containment fatigue and stress among our SOS families in the CVs. Physically reaching our children under temporary placement in the community due to DCS Covid-19 measures remained a challenge. ▪ A continuously uncertain operating environment, unanticipated and unbudgeted Covid-19 related expenditures during the pandemic made planning, financing and execution of SOS CV KE actions erratic as it introduced strains on the 2020 SOS CV KE approved plans, budgets and standard operating procedures. Human Resources management became even more challenging as our labour laws remained unclear to employers on how to handle very critical aspects of our human capital during the pandemic. ▪ A traumatized economic landscape devastated by the negative economic effects of the Covid-19 pandemic made fundraising and resources mobilization to enable SOS CV KE respond more effectively to the pandemic including to meet unprecedented testing and isolation costs even more difficult. 	

- With meetings shifting to virtual options, too many virtual internal and external meetings during the pandemic period introduced another challenge to time management and implementation actions.

Lessons learned [see 2.2]

- A robust ICT infrastructure is key to business continuity especially during a pandemic or an emergency.
- Strengthened relationship, mutual understanding and consistent engagement with national and local governments and respective structures is not only useful for long term program sustainability but great for better intervention ownership and impact.
- In advocacy, carrying other like-minded organizations and individuals along is key to greater impact and scale of our services.
- The English dramatist George Chapman in his 1954 play “Revenge for Honour” was right to say “The Law is a Donkey”.

Cross-cutting topics [see 2.3]

- SOS CV KE introduced “Speak Out Boxes” across the children’s villages to strengthen reporting of child safeguarding and childcare concerns among children, youth and care workers who were compelled by government restrictions to remain locked for over nine (9) months in the CVs.
- SOS CV KE strengthened its safety and security management through national and programme location-level Safety and Security Committees to ensure children, young persons, care workers and staff remained safe and secure throughout the year. Notably, a couple of nocturnal security breaches had been reported in the CVs as the effects of Covid-19 started to hit the economy hence a majority of the Kenyan population.
- SOS CV KE allowed most of its staff across the country to adopt a “work from home” approach to help keep everyone safe and free from infection.
- 2020 recorded the highest number of ad hoc meetings of the Board of Trustees of SOS CV KE as the uncertain environment and its implication to governance and management of the association continued to call upon frequent high level governance resolutions.

Sustainability actions [see 2.4]

- SOS CV KE raved up its partnerships for programme sustainability approach with government (national and county including DCS), like-minded partners (Joining Forces Alliance, Kenya Methodist University, ACCIK, Changing the Way We Care, Daystar University, etc.), community level structures across our seven (7) programme locations (Advisory Councils, Court Users Committees, etc.). By the end of 2020, a draft Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection had been agreed through a joint MoU development workshop held at the SOS Regional Training Centre in Nairobi.

3. Overview of programme(s)

In the year 2020, SOS CV Kenya had a foot print in 7 counties in Kenya all coordinated from 5 key locations; Mombasa Nairobi, Meru Eldoret and Kisumu. Combined, the locations reached 13,118 (7,523 Female and 4,350 Male) children in both alternative care and the family strengthening programs. 2,535 families were reached with essential (birth registration, health insurance cover through NHIF) services, livelihood capacity building and business inputs as well as soft skills such as parenting. The Voucher Assistance program helped cushion 921 families across the 7 counties from the effects of the pandemic mostly through livelihood and food support as well as COVID 19 personal prevention equipment such as masks and hand washing soap.

While schools remained closed in most of 2020, SOS CV KE supported its children to continue learning through various technology-based platforms including radio, television and online schooling during the year. Prior to the closure of learning institution 85% and 83% of learners in Alternative care and Family strengthening had registered satisfactory academic performance.

SOS CV KE launched the Youth Links program that aimed to match SOS CV KE youth to mentors from DHL Kenya, Total Kenya as well as SOS staff for coaching and mentorship on careers and employability. The youth were also engaged in online learning, interactions with other young people across the globe and on media addressing issues affecting them.

SOS CV KE held its inaugural ND Awards aimed at identifying, nurturing and exposing talents among children as well as address the fatigue and anxiety that was building up due to the restrictions across the villages put up to curb the spread of Covid-19. Though unanticipated, the ND award unearthed child ambassadors who will in the coming year help amplify children's voice on behalf of the MA on the care reform agenda in the country.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. NATIONAL CONTEXT AND STAKEHOLDERS (2 pages)	7
1.1 General description of national context (1 page)	7
1.2 Key partners at national level (1 page)	7
2. MEMBER ASSOCIATION ANALYSIS (5-7 pages)	9
2.1 Strategy implementation status (2-3 pages)	9
2.1.1 Alternative care	9
2.1.2 Family strengthening.....	10
2.1.3 Youth care, education and employability	11
2.1.4 Advocacy.....	12
2.1.5 Human resources.....	13
2.1.6 Internal processes and digitalisation.....	14
2.1.7 Fund development	15
2.2 Lessons learned (1 page)	15
2.3 Cross-cutting topics (¾ page)	16
2.4 Sustainability actions (¾ page)	17
3. OVERVIEW OF PROGRAMME(S) (½-1 page per programme)	17
3.1 Programme location: SOS Children's Village Kisumu	17
3.2 Programme location: SOS Children's Village Eldoret.....	18
3.3 Programme location: SOS Children's Village Nairobi.....	19
3.4 Programme location: SOS Children's Village Mombasa	21
3.5 Programme location: SOS Children's Village Meru	22
ANNEX 1: Hyperlinks to related materials	24
ANNEX 2: Summary of major activities of the MEMBER Association.....	25

1. NATIONAL CONTEXT AND STAKEHOLDERS

1.1 General description of national context

In the years preceding 2020, Kenya had made considerably large strides in political, structural and economic reforms that spurred economic growth averaging 5.7% at the close of 2019; making the country one of the fastest growing economies in sub Saharan Africa (World bank July 2020). At the turn of 2020, the country's economy growth path was hard hit by both demand and supply shocks emerging from external and domestic fronts. At the start of the year, Kenya faced the first wave of the desert locust invasion that affected many parts of the country especially the North East part of the country. A clear effect of the invasion was on food security and far reaching effects on the agriculture sector and the economy at large. COVID 19 (corona Virus) pandemic also put a dent in the economic growth. Other than reducing the economic growth rate from an average of 5.7% (2015 – 2019) to 1.5%; the pandemic increased poverty by 4 percentage points (approximately 2 million more poor people) by affecting livelihoods, decreasing incomes and employment. Unemployment rates in the country shot to 10.4% following the 9-month recess occasioned by the pandemic. In response to the crisis, the government has deployed both fiscal and monetary policies to support the healthcare system, protect the most vulnerable households, and support firms to help preserve jobs, incomes and the economy's productive potential¹

The first COVID 19 case was reported in the month of March 2020, following this pronouncement, the government through the Health, and Interior Security Ministries declared a number of preventive measures to reduce community transmission. Among the measures enforced included the immediate closure of all Early and Childhood Development education (ECDE), basic (Primary and secondary) and tertiary learning institutions. This in deed secured children from contracting the virus but also affected the economy especially where the measured output of education is concerned. Further, the government enforced restricted movement across the counties of Nairobi, Mombasa and Kilifi which were considered the infection hotspots. Finally, places of social gathering such as places of worship, social functions such as burials and wedding were also controlled for a good part of the year. These measures had far reaching consequences on social functioning of the society, with these measures a new normal emerged, with employees working from home, burials and weddings limited to close family members (not more than 50 people) these prevention measures set up by the government had massive disruptions in our beneficiaries lives and livelihoods.

The Ministry of Labour and Social Services, through the Department of Children Services (DCS) and Civil Society Organizations forged through the care reforms agenda during the year, sustaining the moratorium against inter country and resident adoptions of Kenyan children, as well as a moratorium on the registration of new CCIs in line with limiting intake of children into CCIs. Further, the department after domestication of the United Nations Guidelines for the Alternative care of children, continued its pilot of these guidelines across 5 counties focusing on re-integration of Children to families as prescribed in the National Guidelines. The Department in the wake of COVID 19 Pandemic issued a directive on decongestion of CCIs by placement of children with their relatives in the community or placement of children in care options in the community. This saw close to 60% of children held in CCIs re-integrated with their family of origin.

Despite the changes in the landscape as summarised above, SOS Children's Villages Kenya continued its resolve to embrace different Alternative Care options under Family Based Care to reach more children with value for money and create bigger impact. Focus on community and Family Empowerment to enhance self-reliance of families to prevent children from losing parental care and enhance protection systems within the community. Enrich and expand youth programming initiatives to focus on equipping the youth with adequate employability skills and focus on addressing emerging youth issues as well as life skills development. Tap into institutional funding, corporates and high net worth individuals for programme growth and sustainability. Finally, the MA sought to establish strategic partnerships to support service delivery to its target group while improving brand visibility and collaboration with government to ensure more children succeed in life.

1.2 Key partners at national level

¹ World Bank Kenya, Kenya Economic Update: Navigating the pandemic, 2020

Table 1.2 Key partners

Name of partner	Description <i>(purpose of partnership)</i>	Progress in last year <i>(key actions taken)</i>	Effectiveness of partnership <i>(contribution to results)</i>	Formal agreement signed
Government of Kenya (GoK).	<p>Position SOS CV KE as a crucial partner for government in Childcare.</p> <p>Leverage on government structures and systems to increase SOS CV KE reach and impact in childcare services.</p> <p>Raise the profile of SOS CV KE amongst childcare donors and support partners.</p>	<p>Joint activities including piloting of Alternative Care; development of national guidelines, policies and procedures; Inclusion of SOS CV KE in all childcare Technical Working Groups of the DCS.</p> <p>SOS CV KE supported the capacity of DCS's Child Information Management System (CIMS) to capture and analysis information and data on Kenyan children through ICT equipment and trainings.</p> <p>SOS CV KE supported trainings for Lay Volunteer Counsellors that now ensures capacity exists at the grass root community level to support management of mental health concerns.</p> <p>Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that will formalize working</p>	100% effective.	No

		relationship between SOS CV KE and Government of Kenya finalized.		
Joining Forces Alliance for Children (JFA)	<p>This is an alliance of six (6) leading child focused international NGOs operating in Kenya (SOS CV KE, World Vision Kenya, Plan Kenya, Child Fund Kenya, Save the Children Kenya & Madagascar and Terres Des Hommes). The alliance aims at taking advantage of the collective capacities of the six (6) agencies to champion the realization of the full rights of Kenyan children.</p>	<p>High level advocacy on child rights issues during the pandemic with the Cabinet Secretary in the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, the Principal Secretary in the same ministry and the various Directors and Heads of Units in the respective State Departments under the ministry.</p> <p>Lobbying of like-minded organizations and donors (in 2020 successful engagements were recorded with UNICEF, the EU and the National Task Force on Covid-19) to support gaps in the realization of full child rights in Kenya.</p>	100% effective.	Yes

2. MEMBER ASSOCIATION ANALYSIS

2.1 Strategy implementation status

2.1.1 Alternative care

The most significant changes during the reporting period was the government directive on decongesting of CCIs by placing children with their relatives in the community or placing of children in care options in the community. The second was the care reform agenda led by government, the agenda increased momentum during the reporting period with the piloting of the national alternative

care guidelines in four counties; the key learnings from these counties will shape child care programming in Kenya.

(a) Achievements

During the year in review, the Member Association (MA) implemented Alternative Care options with effective gate keeping reaching 1,237 (646 Male and 591 Female) children; 888 (494 Male and 394 Female) children through the (693) SOS Family Care and (195) youth care model in 5 locations and 349 (152 Male and 197 female) in kinship and foster care option in the Integrated Alternative Care program in Busia against the MTP target of 1,700 children.

The MA had prepared to integrate 40 children with their family of origin in 2020; however, with the government's directive to decongest CCIs and in the wake of the COVID 19 pandemic 422 children were placed with their relatives and others in different care options in the community. The MA conducted monitoring of these children during their stay with their Kin; 80% of the children had bonded well with their kin and life in the community and were not willing to come back to SOS family care. Their Kin are willing to take the children back and requested for support to manage; the areas of support requested include: education, health and economic empowerment. Due to experienced effects COVID 19, families of origin were in need of support for basic need, the response by the MA was the introduction of cash transfer to cushion the families and children during the prolonged pandemic period.

To prevent entry of the Virus in the program locations, the MA enforced limited free movements of children and mothers in and out of the SFC. This affected the working conditions of the mothers, locations innovated on how mothers could unwind by setting aside the guest house as a safe space for mothers to unwind. Equally, the MA organised online training on PSS to ease the burden for a while for both children and mothers however, with the prolonged pandemic period, gradually everyone accepted as the normal way of life and a new way of life was adopted.

The MA continued to collaborate and strengthen the relationship with the Government of Kenya. First, by strengthening Child Protection Information Management System (CPIMS) through capacity building of stakeholders from 6 counties. 320 participants have been trained to promote quality data for children in Alternative care. This information will play a key role in informing programming, shaping policy and appropriate allocation of resource by government. Further, the MA contributed to CPIMS infrastructure improvement through purchase of 24 computers for CPIMS government section will increase data entry and analysis for different use both internally and externally. Through these collaborations with the government in implementation of Alternative care at Headquarters level and county levels, the SOS CV Kenya brand visibility and positioning was enhanced hence improving Government goodwill and confidence in the MA.

(b) Challenges

The Care reform agenda is daily gaining momentum however, internally within SOS CV the pace is unmatched

2.1.2 Family strengthening

The reporting period witnessed massive disruption of planned activities that had been set for support at the National level and roll out across the locations due to covid – 19 pandemic and mitigating measures taken to curb its spread more so measures disallowing public gatherings and restricting movement across certain regions. Activities related to meetings, trainings, field monitoring visits were adversely affected and a good number had to be cancelled out altogether, postponed or conducted remotely. With the support of the National Office team, most locations were able to review some of their affected activities and reorganized them into emergency response activities therefore remaining relevant and extending the much needed support to target beneficiaries.

Both the national and location teams employed innovative ways to respond to the situation including use of technology (virtual) for meetings and trainings. At the location level, local community structures and mainstream media were utilized for wider sensitization and awareness creation. The use of Voucher Assistance System became a game changer strategy in responding and mitigating on cases of food insecurity, child rights violations, sexual & gender based violence and the resultant family separation.

(a) Achievements

During the year in review, the program pursued their goal of having empowered families and communities providing quality care and protection for their children/youth reaching 9,573 beneficiaries. This is against a backdrop of reduced resilience among families and communities and increased vulnerability to COVID 19 infections, deaths, food insecurity, loss of livelihood, domestic violence and different forms of child abuse including separation and abandonment.

The Family strengthening program in the MA adapted and implemented child care and protection during emergencies interventions First, by Partnering with KAPU Africa and Children's department office to support over 284 families across Kenya and 10 Charitable Institutions with 10 tonnes of Tender Mercies food rations donation reaching 1500 children with nutritious dry meal. Secondly the program successfully implemented a 3 months' short-term emergency intervention across the 7 locations through the Voucher Assistance System, to cushion families from hunger, Covid-19 infection and minimize their exposure to further risks including child rights violations, sexual & gender based violence and the resultant family separation. 921 families translating to 5500 vulnerable persons were reached with food and non-food items. The Voucher Assistance Programme in Kenya was classified as a Best Emergency Response Practice across the EASF region and subsequently documented for wider sharing.

During the reporting period, the program secured 3-year funding to re-introduce FSPs in Meru and Kisumu in 2021 with the good support of IPD Manager, DNP&Q, M&E Manger, PDs from Kisumu and Meru, Regional Office and International Office. The Funding, Euros 150,000 per location per year will directly benefit a total of 600 vulnerable families representing 2400 vulnerable children and youth.

(b) Challenges

Delayed Project completion in some locations i.e Soweto and City Carton Bio gas projects and AMAF Project mainly due to technical issues sometime beyond the ability of the location team

2.1.3 Youth care, education and employability

In the year under review, the COVID-19 pandemic forced changes in the normal lives as prescribed by World Health Organization as safety measures towards continued survival mounted. In Kenya, the government through the ministry of Health announced that all learning institutions would close indefinitely amid fears of the spread of Coronavirus (Covid-19). This untimely closure of schools was a positive response by the government to protect school going children from possible risks of contracting COVID 19. With this pronouncement, learning for 17 million learners was disrupted. The Department of Children Services further urged CCIs to reintegrate children with their kin or other forms of alternative care to decongest CCIs.

(a) Achievements

Education

During the reporting period, in line with the 2030 measures, 85% and 81% of the children in both Alternative care and FS had satisfactory performance before the closure of schools.

SOS CVKE parents were sensitized on their role and responsibility in the Education of their children especially in the light of the new Competency Based Curriculum (CBC). The SOS parents were supported to help their children in their schoolwork, creation of regular routines and study habits. The children benefited from various forms of learning, which included the use of revision books, notes and revision work from their teachers, virtual lessons on TV; radio and EDU channel. Additionally, the children were engaged in a variety of non-academic indoor and outdoor activities.

Further, 227 SOS Parents in five program locations were trained on early childhood development and CBC to enable them provide a stable environment, that is sensitive to children's health and nutritional needs, with protection from threats, opportunities for early learning, and interactions that are responsive, emotionally supportive and developmentally stimulating.

Jielimishe GEC Project

During the reporting period, the focus was on ensuring improvement of learning and teaching to ensure transition of learners to the next level as well as strengthening measures at the school level, community level and the engaged partners by the project to ensure sustainability. To achieve this, activities such as teacher coaching, remedial teaching, distribution of sanitary towels, tracking of TVET beneficiaries, community conversations, economic empowerment and scholarship support to leaners among others were undertaken

On the onset of COVID 19, as an emergency response to workplace safety, the project put together a workplace safety communication protocol which was shared with all the project staff in the consortium. Workplace hygiene has been prioritized by installing hand sanitizers in the offices. The project also established an emergency response team to harmonize and streamline communication within the consortium.

Youth care and employability.

Despite the effects of the global pandemic, the youth department implemented career, job coaching and mentorship for young people. Through collaboration and partnerships, the department launched the youth links program for young people. Youth links is a platform where young people get an opportunity to interact with their peers across the country as well as other countries in Africa and Middle East; through this platform youth shared knowledge on cultural practices as well as COVID-19 experiences. Through the youth Links platform 135 youth engaged with local and international mentors on entrepreneurial development, mentorship and digital skills transfer. The youth interacted with SOS Staff, DHL Kenya staff and from Total Kenya Mentors.

In Line with the MA's MTP desire to advocate for laws and policies in favour of youth and addressing youth challenges; the department established a Youth Advisory committee cutting across gender, child care institutions among other variables to spearhead policy-framework discussions that will inform seamless transition of care leavers to the community. Further, the MA through the youth department coordinated the formation of Young African Leaders (Kenya), a group comprised of 4 youth from Nairobi, Mombasa and Eldoret who meet with their peers in ESAF Region to shape policy discussions on behalf of youth in Africa.

The youth desk, increased youth space and amplified their voices through active participation in various local and international platforms. Locally, some youth have joined Kenya Association of Care Leavers to advocate for rights and space of care leavers. On the global stage, in partnership with Youth café, a local youth advocacy group, youth were bold enough to be heard by government and other agencies particularly on their plight during COVID 19 pandemic

In the year under review, the department launched the mbegu moja (*Swahili for one seed*) initiative; a program that availed a seed capital for young entrepreneurs to sustain their businesses of start –up business ventures. During the year, 40 youth benefited by starting and boosting SMEs. In addition to the mbegu moja initiative, the department established Youth Resource Centres in Nairobi, Mombasa and Meru and networked them with strong internet to enable continuous virtual learning. 200 youth have benefitted from the facilities either on academic or on talent development

In all, 95% of the youth leaving care in the reporting period were as a result of self-reliance.

(b) Challenges

Lack of electricity, internet connectivity among rural populations and lack of electronic devices in most households created a gap in access to Education.

2.1.4 Advocacy

In the implementation year, SOS CV KE was involved in strategic partnerships contributing significantly to advocating for children within our target group on varied issues that affect them. This significantly contributed to increasing our visibility and ensuring that our brand receives recognition as a strategic partner in the children's sector. SOS CV KE collaborated with the Joining Forces Alliance for Children in Kenya, various state and non-state actors and in technical working groups at County and National level in order to advocate for the rights of children.

(a) Achievements

SOS CV KE contributed technical, financial and material support towards realising advocacy actions. This accorded us an opportunity to provide capacity building to various community based and national child protection structures in order to strengthen child rights systems towards realising the promotion of the rights of children in Kenya. The MA further contributed to improving public laws and policies in favour of our target group through various high level engagements with the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, Cabinet Secretary, Principal Secretary and heads of sections in the Department of Children's Services and the National Council for Children's Services

Child and youth participation was at the core of advocacy work. 400 children from the 7programme locations participated in various advocacy initiatives contributed to policy reform processes and gave

their voice on various issues that affect them. One child participated in a global event on the Universal Children's Day as a representative of the Joining Forces Alliance for Children in Kenya and contributed to the development of the global policy brief "Children's Rights to be Heard"

200 staff from the 8 programme locations have been equipped with skills and knowledge in advocacy. They contributed to reviewing the draft National Advocacy Strategy and identifying key advocacy issues at the programme level. The draft Strategy provides guidance on key advocacy issues to focus on during implementation and involving key stakeholders in order to realize results.

Various tools were utilised for advocacy at national and county level including the involvement of various stakeholders during the implementation period. SOS CV KE participated in various media platforms to raise awareness on varied issues on child rights and child protection. The MA submitted 1 News Paper Article in the local dailies (Daily Nation) on the Day of the African Child, development and dissemination of advocacy messages and conducted 3 media interviews on British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) Swahili Radio, Kenya Television Network (KTN) News and Nation Television (NTV). SOS CV KE jointly planned and implemented key advocacy activities with the Department of Children's Services and the National Council for Children's Services. SOS CV KE is in the process of developing joint MOU with the DCS. This will highlight areas of joint collaboration at the national and county levels.

(b) Challenges

Review of various laws and policies affecting children was also a challenge due to restrictions on stakeholder's meetings. A few have been reviewed through online platforms.

2.1.5 Human resources

Globally, COVID -19 pandemic has put people at great risk and adversely affected business operations. Immediately the first COVID 19 case was confirmed in Kenya in March 2020, the Government of Kenya (GoK) issued directives on safety and health. The Federation of Kenya Employers (FKE) issued an advisory urging members to comply with the directives to curb the spread and minimize the risk of infection of the coronavirus at the workplace. These included measures on keeping the workplace and employees safe, providing safety gear, working from home and reducing travel among others. The Government on its part introduced tax incentives measures to cushion the country against the economic effects of the COVID -19. These include the reduction of VAT from 16 percent to 14 percent, Corporate tax from 30 percent to 20 percent, turnover tax from 3 percent to 1 percent and a total tax exemption for workers earning KShs. 24,000 and less plus revised Pay as You Earn (PAYE) tax brackets which will greatly improve liquidity (FKE employers' interventions to COVID 19. FKE 2020).

(a) Achievements

During the reporting period, the MA had 330 staff, compared to 431 staff in 2019. During the year the MA recruited 16 staff while 101 left the organisation, the major reasons for exits is due to Eldoret and Nairobi Schools end of involvement, Disciplinary, End of contracts, retirement and resignations.

The MA's Human resources department complied with government directives and efforts to ensure that Occupational Safety and health SOS CV Staff was upheld. The department implemented the governments tax relief as summarised below:

A reduction of the resident corporate income tax from 30% to 25% to allow companies additional resources to sustain their operations

A 100% tax relief for individuals earning gross monthly income of up to KES 24,000 (generally classified as "low income earners")

A payment of additional income for a person earning a monthly income of KES 24,000

Reduction of the top "Pay as You Earn" (PAYE) rate from 30% to 25%

The department also adjusted to the new normal by toning down physical working from the office during the heightened infection rate period by providing staff with a work from home option.

During the reporting period, the MA settled all terminal dues for staff affected by the End of Involvement of SOS in running schools in Eldoret and Nairobi.

The department also ensured that the senior management and the national management teams at the MA were duly trained on Change management ahead of the strategic plan development process for the MA. In addition, the department trained 8 retiring mothers on retirement.

(b) Challenges

- a) Litigation by 49 teachers who had been on suspension due to closure of schools in Kenya.
- b) Perpetual costs in the MA budget to provide essential PPEs, fumigation of the office, sanitizers.
- c) The MA incurring additional costs of airtime to provide for the staff working from home.
- d) Costs associated with testing mother/aunts after resuming from leave/off days.

2.1.6 Internal processes and digitalisation

Internal Audit is an independent appraisal function established within SOS CV Kenya to examine and evaluate its activities as a service to the organization. The objective of the department is to assist Management and the Board in the effective discharge of their duties. It is the Board's responsibility to set policies and the auditor's role is to independently and objectively analyse, review and evaluate existing procedures and activities, to report on conditions and to recommend changes for consideration.

During the year in review, the department had planned to conduct five local audits (Meru CV, Mombasa CV, Eldoret CV, Nairobi CV and Busia and Suba) and support the Regional Office in carrying out two ESAF audits in MA Ghana and MA Ethiopia. Due to COVID -19 Pandemic, which led to cessation of movement for most part of the year, the two regional audits were not conducted.

Key learning for the ICT department accruing from the year 2020 include: to always fully implement the Business Continuity Plan (BCP)

Migrate all MA resources to cloud. That is all applications and Active directory to fully allow staff to work remotely.

(a) Achievements

Despite the COVID – 19 Pandemic, internal audit was able to conduct 80% of the planned audits; there was massive improvements in the response of audit queries with a 64% reduction in outstanding audit issues from 273 at the beginning of the year to 98 at the end of the year leading to a strong internal control environment. In addition, the department was able to substantiate allegations of fraud raised by Elizabeth Glaser Paediatric Aid Fund (EGPAF), the donor for the FS program in Suba. Internal Audit also support the Regional Office in a fact finding mission to substantiate the allegations raised anonymously against MA Kenya; these allegations were not substantiated. This ensured that internal controls were operating as designed and any gaps identified was addressed, supporting the implementation of the organization's strategy.

Internal Audit (IA) continued to offer advisory to staff through Skype for Business, telephone conversations and emails so as to ensure that the organization continues to achieve its objectives amidst the pandemic by following policies and procedures and best practices

To keep abreast of national and global practice, the department participated in a number of capacity building workshops, trainings and webinars as summarised below:

- a) NGO Compliance training in Naivasha organized by NGO Co-ordination Board to learn more about compliance to the NGO Act as well as income tax Act. This improved our knowledge on various aspects of NGO and Income Tax Acts
- b) Financial Services Sector IFRS Webinar organized by EY to learn more about COVID-19 implications on IFRS 9 Expected Credit Losses (ECL) considerations, IFRS 16 Lease amendments and concessions, AS 36 Impairment of Assets and Interest Rate Benchmark Reform (IBOR). This enhanced our skills and equipped us to advise Management on how to effect the changes in the financial statements.
- c) IOR Program Advisor training to learn more about Resource Based Management (RBM) where we gained knowledge on program design, monitoring, evaluation and reporting.
- d) IPD Compliance Workshop organized by the Regional office where we were able to learn more about Grants Management as well as the ProDiGi system used to manage grants/IPDs.
- e) Fraud Risk Management in a Crisis Environment where the discussion centred on risk areas that have arisen as a result of the changing work environments during the COVID 19 pandemic.

- f) Navigating tax and workforce changes in Kenya post COVID-19 which discussed changes that affect the Not for Profit Organizations such as shift in funding and the recent tax changes.

During the reporting period, The MA through the ICT department conducted a complete overhaul of the MA's Local Area Network (LAN). This was timely as business operations moved online during the COVID 19 prevention restrictions. The ICT department also upgraded the MA's software applications to Microsoft office 2016 professional and Windows 10 Professional operating system. Lastly, the ICT department procured, configured and dispatched 65 laptops to co-workers across the 5 locations.

(b) Challenges

Delay in closure of outstanding audit issues by respective departments and locations despite constant follow-ups.

Limitations of scope during the virtual audit as we are not able to visit suppliers, beneficiaries, conduct physical assets verification, stock and petty cash count and visit some of the projects at the location to ascertain the percentage of completion.

Covid-19 travel restrictions and lockdown of two of the MA Counties delayed the LAN Overhaul project.

2.1.7 Fund development

(a) Achievements

Successfully mobilised KShs. 23,134,450 () through corporate giving, in-kind donations local and corporate donors. This accounted for 66% of the targeted amount. Fundraising efforts were heavily affected by COVID 19 especially where fundraising events, Philanthropic donation and merchandising is concerned. The MA raised only KShs. 57,245,797 in the year from operational income accounting for only 40% of the year's projected income. This performance was due to the closure of schools and low uptake of medical services across the medical centres.

Despite stringent restrictions on movement and gatherings, the MA adopted innovative digital fundraising initiatives targeting public seeking information on Covid-19 online during lockdown. Under this there, short thematic appeal initiated during phased opening of schools and at the end of the year.

MA repurposed the TTI Fashion and design department and engaged learners who were out of session and teaching staff to produce facemasks.

To empower household affected by Covid-19, the MA engaged caregivers and youth under FS, with skills in tailoring to produce masks as part of initiative to support the Department of children Services.

(b) Challenges

Inability to undertake F&R activities due to Covid-19 restrictions. There were also poor responses from corporates as business was low and some registered reduced business

2.2 Lessons learned

Table 2.2 Lessons learned

Type	Lesson learned	Action(s) to be taken	Status of action
Good practice	Active engagement and participation in care reform agenda has provided opportunities for SOS CV Kenya to influence decisions in the favor of the target group	Continuous participation in care reform meeting to continue positioning the association as being supportive to change. Align and prepare the MA both internally and externally on the developments of the agenda.	SOSCVKE is already represented in different technical working groups.
Challenge	MA emergency preparedness and	Develop a Costed National Emergency Preparedness	A consultant has already been identified and is conducting

	<i>response to COVID 19 took long to roll out.</i>	<i>and Response Strategy for MA</i>	<i>data gathering on the practices relating to emergency response. The exercise is poised to be completed within the first quarter of 2021.</i>
<i>Good Practice</i>	<i>The Voucher Assistance Program as an emergency strategy to support vulnerable communities ensures targeted support (food and Nonfood items)</i>	<i>Integrate Voucher assistance Program in FS programming and in emergency to assure accountability of funds</i>	<i>Has been adopted as the emergency response where food and nonfood items is concerned.</i>
<i>Observation</i>	<i>Although Education is associated with institutionalized schooling, home schooling can be a good alternative to guarantee continued Education during emergency.</i>	<i>Deliberately build the capacity of care givers both in FS and SFC and proper awareness made.</i>	<i>Awareness raising on roles and responsibilities of care givers in learning under the new competency based curriculum has been done</i>
<i>Good Practice</i>	<i>The quick adoption of ICT in virtually all department and programs ensured that planned activities were not adversely affected</i>	<i>The effects of COVID will be with us for the next 3-5 years, this calls for adaptability and utilization of technology as a medium of program delivery. This should therefore be included in the work plans and stronger more reliable internet connections sought for the locations and the national office.</i>	<i>The ICT department undertook a LAN overhaul in the year under review. User migration from the active directory currently in use to Microsoft Azure to secure and improve internet interaction is underway. <i>Establish a county hub on share point to tap into the efficiency and effectiveness brought about by technology.</i></i>

2.3 Cross-cutting topics

Child Safeguarding

SOS CV KE Child Safeguarding (CS) department through the National CS Coordinator trained location staff and respective Government sub county children officers on Online child safety and Anti Human Trafficking. The department, set up Speak Out Boxes in all locations to enable children to voice out any concerns they may have during containment period. This came in handy during the long containment period as the CS committees were able to arrest child safeguarding and care concerns early and address them.

The CS department represented SOS CV KE in a number of high level technical working groups championing the welfare of children more so those with limited parental care and other at the verge of losing the care.

Safety and Security

SOS CV KE trained its entire Senior Management Team and the National Management Teams on safety and security. Following the training, the national office and the programme locations set up locational safety and security committees to assess security risks and put in place mechanisms to mitigate the risks. Following the set-up of the committee in Mombasa Location, the committee sought in kind donations and erected a perimeter wall for the Children's Village.

Emergency Response

The MA engaged in emergency response during the reporting year through internal reallocation of funds as well as through institutional funds and corporate giving to cushion families from adverse effects of the novel corona virus. Among the response was the Voucher Assistance program that has been identified as a promising practice and major programme innovation during emergencies. KAPU industries donated 10 tonnes of food rations to the MA, the donation supported FS families as well as other vulnerable members in the FS communities and supported 10 CCIs.

2.4 Sustainability actions

With the economic landscape getting worse by the month and many organizations closing shop due to the unfavourable economic situation, and proponents of De-Institutionalizing raving their pressure a notch higher, SOS CV KE trained its efforts for mid to long term survival on programme sustainability through strategic partnerships. Such partnerships included government (national and county), like-minded organizations and institutions (Joining Forces Alliance, Kenya Methodist University, ACCIK, Changing the Way We Care, Daystar University, etc.), community level structures across our seven (7) programme locations (Advisory Councils, Court Users Committees, etc.). By the end of 2020, a draft Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection had been agreed through a joint MoU development workshop held at the SOS Regional Training Centre in Nairobi.

SOS CV KE's financial sustainability plans will need a re-think in the coming year considering that the effects of Covid-19 will remain with us for a while and the economy is not likely to improve in the short term. Corporate support partners will be expected to continue recovering from the negative financial effects of the pandemic.

3. OVERVIEW OF PROGRAMME(S)

3.1 Programme location: SOS Children's Village Kisumu

SOS CV – Kisumu is located in the western region of Kenya. The programme location hosts the SOS Family Care (SFC) program as well as two institutional Partnership Development (IPD) projects in Busia and Homa Bay Counties. In 2020, SOS CV Kisumu implemented the alternative Care program in Kisumu, Integrated Child Care Program, in Busia and the Timiza (*Swahili for Achieve*) 90 Project in Homa Bay.

Alternative care Program - SOS CV Kisumu in Kisumu County.

During the reporting period, the SFC had a total of 145 (79 Male and 66 Female) children. At the onset of stringent COVID 19 protocols, 70 Children were reunified with their families of origin in line with the government directive to achieve social distancing as well as decongest charitable children institutions (CCIs). Kisumu is one of the 5 Counties piloting the national Care Reforms.

During the year, the location amidst the COVID 19 pandemic, received capacity building from the County Directorate of Children services (DCS) on re-integration of children to their families of origin. Following the training, the location assessed 17 children against the targeted 20 children for re-integration. At the close of year, the 17 children were awaiting board approval for the final re-integration to be concluded. Further, the location held a number of capacity building sessions including the foster caring as guided by the National guidelines on Alternative Care. The foster care training was conducted by the county DCS. The location team also identified and oriented foster parents in line with the guidelines. In the coming year, 10 children will be supported into the foster care program.

In line with the commitment 5 of the SOS Care Promise, the location held a seminar on positive parenting for 35 care givers (15 SOS Mothers and 20 parents of SOS Kindergarten pupils). The training addressed Rights of the Child; how to build on the positive rather than weakness and constantly engaging/walking with child to understand what is happening in their context. Finally, the location continued on its quest to have the National Council of Children Services (NCCS) and Department of Children Services recognise the SOS Family Care model by implementing the recommendations by the agencies on ways of improving the model. Among the recommendations made were to ensure the location had a resident social worker among the staff, complete the renewal of the registration status of the Village and ensure all children had valid committal orders from the government. Of the recommendations provided, the locations implemented the latter two and is poised to have a social worker recruited.

Integrated alternative care and family strengthening program – Busia County

The Integrated Child Care program in Busia seeks to create qualitative and innovative alternative care for at least 1,200 vulnerable children in Busia County, that are being neglected, abandoned or abused. During the reporting period, Busia had 1,399 beneficiaries in Family strengthening.

During the year, the program utilised the power of media (television and Radio) to advocate for quality care for children including access to justice for children in the county. Guided by the spirit behind Commitment 9, radio sessions were conducted using local radio to reach out to the community in Busia. From the call ins during the sessions, the program noted that child rights violation was rife in the county, their participation was diminished due to lack of awareness of children rights among children themselves, community and carers. Following this realisation, Child rights wall murals were painted in 10 schools, The murals present child friendly messaging on Child rights and responsibilities.

During the heightened COVID 19 pandemic, the location supported the 300 target households' food and non-food items through the Voucher Assistance Program. The MA program sought to cushion vulnerable families against the effects of COVID 19. Busia is a rural area in the West of Kenya, has about one million inhabitants, 66% of which live below the poverty line, the county has a child rich population: 48% of the total population is 0-14 years old. The county is one of the counties with the highest population of children affected by poverty in Kenya with the main activity being trade with the neighbouring country of Uganda. During the pandemic, the border crossing that fuels the trade between Kenya and Uganda was temporarily under lock down disrupting livelihood opportunities. Hence the Voucher Assistance program was a welcome gesture to the families, during the monitoring visits conducted to beneficiaries, securing food for the family was the main pressure point during heightened government COVID 19 prevention initiatives including the temporary closure of the Kenya Uganda Border. The VA Program did cushion families in Busia for the three months prior to harvesting period.

EGPAF Funded Timiza 90 Program – Suba in Homa bay County.

The Timiza90 is an Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) Health Project that sought to build the resiliency of families and children affected by HIV and AIDS so that they can meet their health, economic, education, and social development needs.

During the reporting period, 4,398 children had been enrolled in the program. In the course of the year, 147 children were supported to stay in school and learn through bursaries; while 250 more were linked to government bursaries. 157 girls received dignitary kits that ensured they consistently attended school even during their menses. Where health is concerned, 471 children living with HIV were supported through follow-ups to suppress their viral load and adhere to their ART regimen as well as support in making disclosure of their status. By the end the year 652 families and 1656 children were identified assessed and found to have met the key programmatic benchmarks to allow them to be exited or graduated from the program.

3.2 Programme location: SOS Children's Village Eldoret

SOS CV Eldoret is found along the great Rift valley in Uasin Gishu County. During the reporting period, the location ran program in the following programme units; SOS Family Care (SFC), Family Strengthening, Youth and Employability and IPD programs such as the Community Action for Quality Alternative Care (CAQAC) Program. The location also ran the medical centre.

SOS Family Care (SFC)

During the reporting period, The SFC unit reached 175 (92 Male and 83 Female) children; 121 (67 Male and 54 Female) of whom were below the age of 17 while 54 (25 Male and 29 Female) were above the age of 18 years.

Despite the delay in implementaion occassioned by the novel Corona Virus, the location sensitized the 16 SOS mothers on reintegration as well as case management. Resulting from the training, 13 SOS Mothers conducted assessments for children in various programs in the location for re-integration.

In line with commitment 5 of the care promise, the location conducted capacity building for the SOS mothers in a bid to improve their working conditions. The trainings conducted include, Parenting Skills Training that included Psychosocial Support (PSS); which came in handy during the containment measures to prevent COVID 19 infection and spread. SOS mothers were able to support their children cope with anxiety emanating from the lock down. The many trainings on SOS Mothers' roles in education were also tested during the reporting quarter as mothers home schooled their children following the closure of all learning institutions as a way of safeguarding the children.

Family Strengthening

Eldoret FS Program reached 451 Beneficiaries in the reporting period. At the onset of the pandemic, the program conducted a rapid assessment of their beneficiaries to assess the effects of the pandemic on their livelihoods and parenting & coping mechanism. The findings indicated that the pandemic affected family income generating Activities (IGAs) adversely hence the need to cushion some of the families against the pandemic. In light of this, the program reached out to 94 families in dire need of support through the voucher assistance program, the vouchers enabled families to redeem select food and non food items at local stores in the FS catchment area. Equally, a further 60 families were supported by the program with hand washing facilities and soap to prevent spread of COVID 19.

During the reporting period, the location, in line with commitment 9 of the care promise partnered with Post bank, Social Development Office and the Women enterprise fund to sensitize and support 6 VSLA groups on the existing government opportunities on microfinance and as well support them in the digitization of the groups. Following the session, one group has since opened been registered by the social development office while 2 other groups opened bank accounts for their groups.

During the reporting period, 90 children were supported to engage in the government home schooling Kenya Institute for Curriculum Development (KICD) radio lessons through provision of solar radios and other learning materials, the project also utilised volunteers trained on COVID 19 response in the community to track learners access of the radio programs. In 2020,



Eldoret location concluded the AMAF Project, a project that will see 1,500 children from Munyaka Primary school and 1,500 households access clean water. During the year, the community project management committee was trained water resource management, resource mobilization, conflict management as well as monitoring and evaluation. The project will be handed over to the community in 2021.

Youth and employability.

During the reporting period, 13 youth were trained on online commerce by Wylde International. The youth were exposed to online marketing using social media namely Facebook, Instagram and WhatsApp to market and sell products. A group of 10 young people were also supported by Youth Empowerment Program by DHL through a start-up fund for their poultry rearing business.

Health (Medical Centre)

In a rapid assessment of the medical centre to ascertain how to make it self sustaining, disease burden had reduced, especially Hygiene related ailments. This was also witnessed in the number of patients who visited the SOS Medical centre. Service uptake fell by 29% during the reporting period. 5,577 visits were made to the centre down from 7,898 in 2019. This affected the centres turn over by 12%. Kshs. 6,712,226 compared to Kshs. 7, 594,454 in 2019. Other than reduction in hygiene related infections, COVID 19 fears, misconception and myths also affected the client flow to the medical centre. Despite the low performance, the centre conducted regular COVID 19 updates dissemination, sensitization of preventive strategies against the novel virus. The centre is hopeful that a state of normalcy is foreseen at the start of 2021.

3.3 Programme location: SOS Children's Village Nairobi

The Nairobi location had approved annual plans and budgets for FY 2020 drawn from the three mid plan that runs from 2019 to 2021. The annual plans and budgets started to be implemented in January 2020, however mid-March 13th 2020 less expected was COVID 19 announcement by the government that the first case had been identified in the country (Kenya). The government through the Ministry of Health provided guidelines on how to mitigate community transmission of the virus such as, Closure of learning institutions, lock down of epicentre counties (Nairobi, Mombasa and Kilifi)

while other personal prevention measures such as social distancing, wearing of masks when in public places as well as hand washing were domiciled.

Despite the slowdown in activities due to the containment measures, Nairobi location implemented Alternative care, Family Strengthening, advocacy and Medical services in the reporting period.

SOS Family Care Program

The Alternative Care Program in Nairobi location had 197 (107 Male and 90 female) beneficiaries; 122 (63 Male and 59 Female) children and 75 (44 Male and 31 Female) Youths.

Despite COVID 19 disruptions, The SFC program ensured that students in the program were engaged on online classes and later in home schooling through sourced results skilled personnel (teachers), for both high and primary school learners, who have been teaching CV children and youth. This meaningfully engaged the programme participants and have been on track with their learning when schools were closed. In addition, the location received approvals to reallocate funds to stock the Village library to support revision and enhance a reading culture for the children.

Other extracurricular activities implemented by the location include Training of 25 girls aged between 10 to 17 years on sexual and reproductive health issues emphasizing on menstrual hygiene. This equipped them with issues to address on the same when they are in that session to minimize negative outcomes during that period. 16 children and 8 youth who are leaders in children and youth councils were trained for one day on leadership skills.

Finally, Children in the village had an opportunity to showcase their talents in two occasions in the period of reporting. Children and youth participated in the child and youth international day. The location marked the day with a talent exhibition of various artwork developed by children. In the same breadth, the location took part in the ND Award a drama and music festival that was conducted virtually. The competitions pitted various locations against each other with the winner Meru location feted with the overall ND Award 2020 Trophy while children who excelled in their various items feted with trophy's and gifts.



The location also conducted a home visit after a request reached the alternative care programme of children in need for safety in Naivasha. The admission committee is processing the case guided by the care promise and gate keeping policy support documents.

Family Strengthening

The Family Strengthening program in Nairobi reached 979 Beneficiaries in 2020. During the year, 167 new families were recruited from the two implementation sites into the program. COVID 19 affected livelihoods and further marginalised some of the target families; the location identified and supported 337 navigate the pandemic by providing them with Vouchers which they redeemed selected food and non-food items from their local store. Further, the location supported 13 beneficiaries with business start-up support for their businesses.

For the youth in the program, the location established the Youth digital hub at the Youth social hall. The hub will provide youth with access to the digital learning platform and online jobs opportunity.

Finally, the program successful rolled out the first phase of the Jielimishe GEC (JGEC) mentorship program to 30 youths. The sessions covered include self-awareness and positive relationship. 5 youths identified as TOT for the second phase

During the year, the Nairobi location completed one of the two Biogas projects in Soweto. Furnishing of the centre is yet to be done as well as a training on project management, resource mobilization and general management of the centre. These set of training will ensure that the centre is sustainable and

self-running. Construction of the other centre is ongoing. The bio gas Project is meant to provide the community in City Carton and Soweto with a place where children, youth and general public can access clean energy for their domestic cooking, an Early Childhood Development and Education (ECDE) centre as well as a safe place for sanitation services.

Youth and Employability Program

Despite challenges of COVID 19 the youth department is happy to report that in 2020 experienced a turn up of 90% of youths showing up to activities they were invited to attend which was a positive indicator that they are embracing and positively participating in the activities planned with them during the year. T

he youth department, through partnership with the local Equity Bank Branch, offered financial literacy to 35 youths to enable them be knowledgeable and have the required skills needed to run or start a business. After the training, two youth groups were presented with a capital funds amounting to Kshs. 50,000 each to initiate and continue with their business ideas. The funding was a generous contribution from DHL, and will form part of revolving fund to support youth start-ups The two businesses are doing well and are poised to return the capital by first quarter of 2021 to enable the support to other groups.

During the year, the youth department at the location, with support from the national office, launched a youth hub. The hub is a digital centre for youth where youth can build their ICT skills, be engaged in online work as well as interact with their peers across the global. The hub was instrumental during the COVID 19 restrictions; youth participation at the location was not affected as youth participated through online platforms. The location used the platform to roll out the Youth links program where youth received career mentoring from corporate partners through the platform, through this platform one youth was employed by DHL. Still with regard to participation, youth cafés brought youth together to address emerging and topical issues affecting them. From one of the sessions, one youth from the location received an invitation by a media house to shed light on the solutions for the COVID 19 pandemic.

Medical Centre

The Medical Centre has continued to focus on the provision of quality primary health care services which includes the following: outpatient services, pharmaceutical services, laboratory services, and preventive (outreach) services. In the year under review, the centre provided services to 40,363 patients, generating a revenue of Kshs. 15,575,157.00 which was a decrease of XX% from the performance in 2019. The Centre participated in the annual assessment by the Nairobi Metropolitan Services (NMS) Health team on the 12 dimensions in the KQMH and..... The Facility under the University of Maryland Baltimore implemented the PACT Endeleva project completing their Fiscal year 4 with a green rating (Performing 100% of the time).

3.4 Programme location: SOS Children's Village Mombasa

SOS CV Mombasa is the second oldest SOS Children's village in Kenya. It is located at the coastal county of Mombasa. In the year under review, the location implemented projects under the two main arms of programs in the MA, Alternative Care and Family strengthening.

Due to Covid related protocols, a number of adjustment were put in place to ensure that activities still ran smoothly and at the same time co- workers got time to rest despite children being around. One of the major changes was leave management especially for the SOS Mothers. Team work and collaboration among SOS Mothers was at an all time high as some willingly supported other family houses to take care of children as they colleagues proceeded for leave. Some houses had to be merged depending on the number of children all in a bid to utilise the available manpower effectively. This approach had some unintended outcomes; the affected children appreciated the changes.

SOS Family Care

The location reached 190 (109 Male and 81 Female) children; (124 Children and 66 Youth) in the reporting period.

Despite the challenges that were posed by the covid19 pandemic, the location recorded a number of achievements throughout the year. The location, in line with commitment 1of the care promise, conducted an audit of the children in the facility. The audit sought to assess whether the SFC was still the best option of all the children whether it was in the best interest of the child. The exercise laid a good foundation for the reintegration process for the coming years.

During the reporting period, the Government of Kenya issued a directive to decongest Charitable Children Institutions amidst the COVID 19 Pandemic. The location re-integrated 68 children with their kin. The location further undertook to assess the 38 families whom children were re-integrated in line with case management approach to ascertain whether this could be the best option for the children.

Family strengthening

During the reporting period, the location served 773 beneficiaries in the Family Strengthening program. During the year, the program trained 60% of the FS care givers on child care and positive parenting up from 40% last year. Through the Voucher Assistance Program, the location supported 112 families with food and non food items to cushion them from the effects of COVID 19. Staff in the program also participated in a number of capacity building trainings including the online Psychosocial support Training organised by the Alternative care manager and facilitated by REPSSI International.

Youth care and employability

The care and employability program reached 66 (35 Male and 31 female) youth during the reporting period.

The location rolled out the youth Links program during the year with 28 youth directly supported to be mentored on career guidance and life skills development. Further, the location initiated a Partnership with the Pwani Teknowgalz to support youth with Digital Proficiency skills. In the year under review, 14 high school and college girls have been equipped with mobile app development skills courtesy of the Code Hack training program.

The location also spearheaded a partnership between SOS Mombasa and Telkom Kenya, which led to the support of 106 young people across the MA with customized internet data to access the online mentorship program. During the reporting period, the location launched the Chipukizi (Swahili for youth) Program; a program that links SOS Staff to youth based on the young person's interest areas. Through this program, the location was able to innovate and install metal fabricated pedal operated sanitizing unit at the location in response to COVID 19. The location also facilitated 20 youth to partake short online courses on life skills, entrepreneurship, women empowerment and personal development. These skills were crucial to build resilience during the Covid19 pandemic.

The location assisted 4 semi-independent youth to get absorbed for the National Hygiene Programme (Kazi Mtaaani) in both Mombasa and Kilifi Counties. The program gave them a chance to integrate with the local communities, as well as nurture their sense of social responsibility to the community and environment at large. During the reporting year, five youth were supported to start semi-independent living in the community.

3.5 Programme location: SOS Children's Village Meru

During the reporting period, there was slowdown in activity implementation as a result of COVID-19 preventive measures in place. The location adopted the new norm of implementation of activities such as home schooling and participating in national meetings virtually.

The location had 158 (94 Male and 64 Female) beneficiaries. 52 youth are with their relatives while 5 of the youths are in rented houses. The location made regular monitoring of these children in the course of the year.

SOS Family Care Program

As at end of the year, the location Annual plan was 70% implemented noting that 100% was impossible with the prevailing conditions of COVID-19. The location conducted Child Assessment for 49 children were visited and family assessment done in preparation for their reintegration to the community and support areas.

In line with care promise commitment 5, the location held 4 dialogue sessions with mothers aimed at ensuring that their work environment was conducive and allowed for them to dispel their functions. Among the issues addressed during the forums include Covid-19 –containment measures and how it affects their delivery of care, parenting and care issues, activity implementation schedules, Leaves and off schedules in light of COVID 19. This provided the carers at the location feel involved and part of the solutions that affect their welfare at the village amidst the challenges of the day.

The location also conducted a number of training targeting both staff and key stakeholders. During the reporting period, the location held a training on the care promise to the Program Management Committee (PMC). The training shaped the understanding of the team in readiness of the Family

Strengthening Program that is poised to roll out in the first quarter of 2021. Linked to training was a gatekeeping and United Nations Guidelines on Alternative care that was conducted to 39 participants in the location. In the reporting period, the location was guided by the Advocacy manager to develop a Location Advocacy Strategy that aligns to the draft National strategy on advocacy.

Psychosocial support services was offered to the Children, Youth and SOS parents by staff trained in the first quarter of the year. The staff took time offering targeted psychosocial support to reduce the levels of anxiety which had led to behaviour changes in terms of emotional, social, and psychosocial stability. This helped the children and care givers cope with the COVID 19 restrictions and prevention measures.

Youth care and Employability

During the reporting year, youth were engaged in a number of activities around the location. The youth actively participated in club activities. A group of 14 young people honed their farming skills and have already generated an income of Kshs. 4,000 from their vegetable garden, it is estimated that the group will reap Kshs20, 000 with the crop yet to mature. Another upcoming club is the mat making comprising of 12 girls who make mats, bead work items for sale, they have no sales as at the reporting time. These set of clubs are utilizing the learned soft and life skills in preparing for their future.

The programme locations participated in the inaugural ND award competitions by competing in fashion show, dances, debating and art categories. The programme locations had a total of 42 (22 Female and 20 Male) participating in the competition. The awards were held online and were coordinated at the location level by a team of 27 (14 Male and 13 Female). Meru Location was feted with the overall ND award 2020 as well as best debaters. The location is also home of the Female Ambassador for the MA on care reform agenda. The event enabled children and youth to explore their talents, and hone them towards achieving self-reliance.



ANNEX

ANNEX 1: HYPERLINKS TO RELATED MATERIALS

Topic	Person responsible	Source of information	MA file should be saved to:	Hyperlink
Actual statistics of the MA	Member Support Advisor	LUCY Report accessed via the following path: LUCY → Finance management → Reports → Statistics → Actual statistics	Federation planning & steering: MA statistics	<i>Insert hyperlink of the MA statistics</i>
List of board members	National Director	MA fills in template list of board members	Federation planning & steering: MA annual reports	<i>Insert hyperlink of the list of board members</i>
MA mid-term plan	National Director	MA fills in template for mid-term planning	Federation planning & steering: Mid-term & annual plans	<i>Insert hyperlink of the mid-term plan</i>
MA annual plan	National Director	MA fills in template for annual planning	Federation planning & steering: Mid-term & annual plans	<i>Insert hyperlink of the annual plan</i>
MA website	National Director	Member association website	Not applicable: provide link only	<i>Insert hyperlink of the MA website</i>
Online directory page for MA	National Director	SOS Online Directory	Not applicable: provide link only	<i>Insert hyperlink of specific page for the MA</i>
Progress reports	National Programme Director	Programmes fill in template for progress reports	Federation planning & steering: National & programme reports	<i>Insert hyperlink to the progress reports</i>

ANNEX 2: SUMMARY OF MAJOR ACTIVITIES OF THE MEMBER ASSOCIATION

Major activities of the MA	Date	Corresponding national mid-term objective	Results
Mobilized food and non-items to support vulnerable families affected by Covid-19 measures.	April	SI 2: Strengthen Families	Vulnerable families reached with livelihood and infection prevention support at most critical period.
Youth Links Project launched and additional partner Total Plc recruited.	July	SI 3: Empower Young People	135 youth linked with local and international mentors for entrepreneurial development, mentorship and digital skills transfer (mentors from SOS CVI/ KE, DHL Kenya and from Total Kenya Plc.
Voucher Assistance programme launched and rolled out to programme locations.	July	SI 2: Strengthen Families	921 families translating to 5,500 vulnerable persons were reached with food and non-food items.
Annual planning and budgeting for 2021 location and national levels workshops.	October – November	SI 6: Simplify SOS	2021 plans and budget finalised and submitted for international approval.
Management and leadership trainings and change management capacity building.	October – November	SI 6: Simplify SOS	National and location management and leadership teams trained on change management and NGO compliance.
National Director's Awards	October – December	SI 1: Innovative Alternative Childcare	Children, young persons and care givers at programme locations positively engaged; enabled to showcase their skills, talents and passions while releasing the stress and strain brought about by the Covid-19 containment fatigue in the CVs.
Development of memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Labour & Social Protection	October – December	SI 1-7:	Structured engagements with government, improved working relations with government and raising of the profile of SOS CV KE as a crucial partner to government on matters childcare in Kenya.

Direct engagement with Cabinet Secretary in the Ministry of Labour & Social Protection on child rights issues in Kenya.	December	SI 4: Advocate for Children	Improved policy environment for children especially with increased Covid-19 related child rights violations risks. Increased focus from government on child rights concerns at the highest levels.
Physical visits to children temporarily sent to their communities of origin at the height of Covid-19 in Kenya.	December	SI 1: Innovative Alternative Childcare	Welfare of children in the community assessed on site and children's situation, voices and wishes captured for subsequent programmatic action.
Handover of ICT equipment to the Department of Children's Services to improve management of data and information on children.	December	SI 1: Innovative Alternative Childcare SI 2: Family Strengthening SI 4: Advocate for Children	320 participants trained to promote quality data for children. Additionally, 24 laptop computers issued to the government department responsible for CPIMS to strengthen entry and analysis of data on children necessary for policy formulation, programming and resources allocation for children matters by government.

2020 SOS CV KE Major Activities in Pictures

Capacity Building Interventions:



Picture 1: Katharina Ebel from HGFD and Tongyik Chuol the Regional Safety & Security Advisor take SOS CV KE team through Safety and Security training at the National office in Nairobi. Picture 2: National office team us taken through a fire drill to enhance their capacity to respond to fire related emergencies. Picture 3: National office and Programme Location Teams underwent NGO Board Regulations and Compliance Training.



Training of mothers due for retirement by the end of year 2020 and imparting in them knowledge and skills to better manage their lives in retirement.

Stories from the Programme Locations

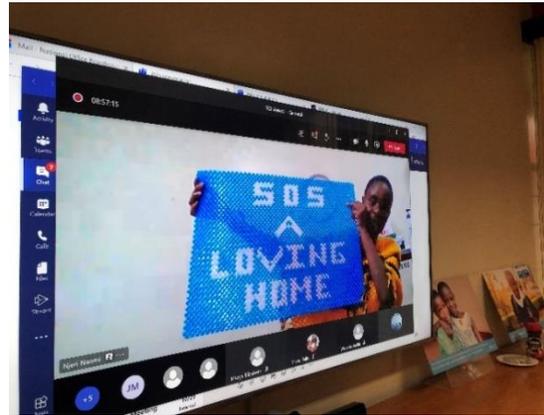
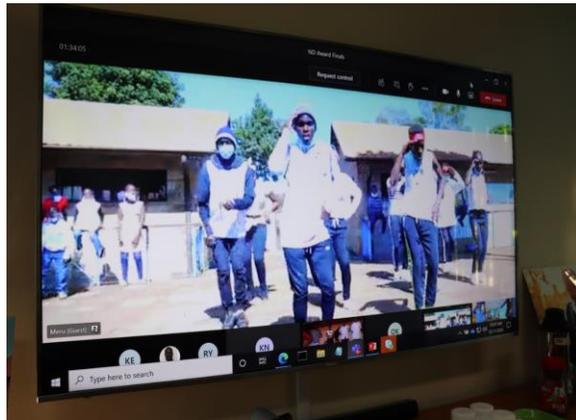


Programme location worked closely with respective County Health Surveillance Teams to sensitize the SOS CV KE communities on Covid-19, necessary measures to be taken to prevent the spread and conducted testing services to children and co-workers.



Picture 1 and 2: Children were more innovative in creating play items to keep them entertained during the Covid-19 school closures that confined them in the CVS. Others went into poultry rearing in the SOS family houses.

The Nationals Directors Awards 2020 (Virtual):





Supporting Vulnerable FS Families and Communities During the Pandemic:



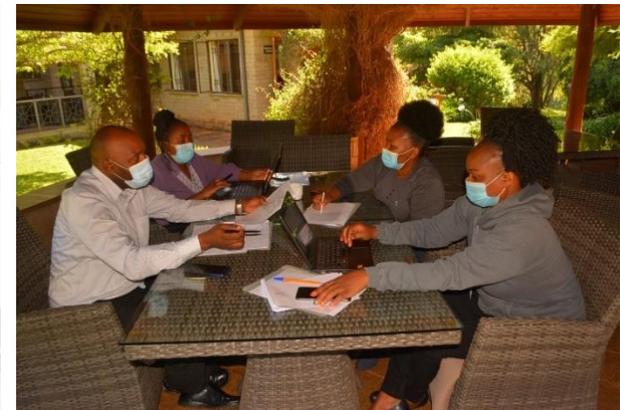


SOS CV KE partnered with retail outlets including Naivas Supermarkets to reach vulnerable FS communities locked out due to government movement restrictions aimed at containing the spread of the coronavirus.

Partnership with Government for Impact and Sustainability:



Picture 1: Meeting between Department of Children’s Services, IOR ESAF Representatives and SOS CV KE to deliberate on a structured partnership with the Government of the Republic of Kenya in managing childcare issues in Kenya. Picture 2: Group photo after the meeting. Picture 3: Technical teams representing SOS CV KE and Department of Children’s Services during the development of the MoU at the SOS Regional Training Centre in Nairobi.



Picture 1 and 2: SOS CV KE donated laptops to the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection through the Secretary of Children’s Services under the Tracking Progress Initiative (TPI) to strengthen children’s data capturing and information management as part of its continued commitment to work with government to strengthen childcare in Kenya.



Picture 1: Country Directors of six international non-governmental organizations in Kenya under the umbrella of Joining Forces Alliance engage with the Cabinet Secretary in the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection at the height of the Covid-19 pandemic. Picture 2: County Coordinator Mombasa County issuing identification documents to Lay Volunteer Counsellors in Mombasa County. Picture 3: Programme Director Meru Programme Location issuing certificates to trained Lay Volunteer Counsellors in Meru County.



Pictures 1-3: SOS CV KE supported the Department of Social Development led by the Director for Social Development in training and equipping Social Development Officers and Lay Volunteer Counsellors across the counties where SOS CV KE has presence. The trainings were on family promotion and protection issues, psychosocial support and community referrals, family strengthening, child protection and support and general awareness creation for Social Development programmes available in the community.

General Roundup:



Pictures 1-3: The virtual launch of the 2020 YouthLinks programme at the National office in Nairobi.



Picture 1: Consultative meeting with a representative of Pharo Foundation to discuss SOS CV KE schools marked for ending involvement in education facilities. Picture 1-2: A courtesy visit to the Managing Director of Bata Shoe Company to convey appreciations for their generous donation of 3,000 pairs of school shoes to SOS CV KE.



Pictures 1-2: National and location teams the 2021 annual planning and budget consolidation workshop. Picture 3: Investments made towards business continuity during the pandemic saw monthly management meetings to review financial and operational performance of SOS CV KE uninterrupted.



To strengthen the capacity of SOS CV KE management and leadership teams and equip them to embrace a change culture and better cope with the dynamism of the business operating environment, national and location leadership teams underwent a three month “Change Journey” and pre-strategic plan development workshops.